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CLASSIFICATION SECRET		REPORT NO.	25X1
COUNTRY Germany (East Zone)			
PIC Military Information from Zeitz			
EVALUATION	PLACE OBTAINED	25X1	
DATE OF CONTENT 22 to 26 November 1950			
DATE OBTAINED	DATE PREPARED	12 January 1951	
REFERENCES			
PAGES 2	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)		
REMARKS			
RETURN TO CIA			

1. Between 22 and 26 November 1950, it was observed that the northwestern building of the Infanterie Kaserne in Zeitz (M 52/K 08), which is located at the left side of the highway to Gera, had been separated from the billeting area by a board fence. [redacted] the building had been converted into a transient billets for Soviet personnel. The building had a separate entrance.

25X1

2. Only trucks were observed in the large garages of the Infanterie Kaserne and in a former stable building in the southern section of the billeting area. [redacted] to have previously seen tanks there. If tanks were actually stationed in the billeting area, they could have only been in the two recently enlarged stable buildings in the southern section. Officers observed wore artillery insignia, whereas no tank insignia were seen.

25X1

3. More activity was observed in the Artillerie Kaserne on the right side of the highway to Gera than in the Infanterie Kaserne. [redacted] more than 100 tanks were stationed in the barracks installation. [redacted] not see any tanks, but heard the sound of tank engines. Four fuel trucks [redacted] were parked at the service station. (1)

25X1

25X1

4. The units in both barracks installations on the highway to Gera had returned from the Ohrdruf troop training grounds. [redacted] estimated the troops quartered in both installations at 3,000. [redacted] thought this estimate too high. All the windows of both installations were lighted at dusk. Routine activities were observed. On 7 November, the day of the October Revolution, [redacted] saw 700 to 800 troops marching to the town, but could not tell whether the troops had come from one or both barracks installations. (1)

25X1

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2

25X1

5. Houses No 9 through 16 on Friedrich-Engel-Platz were requisitioned by the Soviets. Local residents said that these buildings housed mess halls, officers' billets, and the PX. A sentry in front of the buildings wore red-bordered black epaulets. [redacted]

25X1

Other requisitioned houses were situated on the opposite side of Friedrich-Engel-Platz. Sentries were also observed there. The Soviet komendatura was located on Kantstrasse. (2)

6. A former German Army warehouse, surrounded by a barbed-wire fence, was observed at Bergisdorf (N 52/K 07). [redacted] fuel was stored there by the Soviets. An ammunition dump, continually guarded by three soldiers wearing red-bordered epaulets, was located on the dirt road to Bergisdorf. It contained surface bunkers and sheds, under which ammunition boxes were stored. (4)

25X1

7. Four AA guns of not less than 50 mm and not more than 88 mm were emplaced in the southern section of the Artillerie Kaserne, near the junction of the road to Bergisdorf. Local residents said that six AA guns were emplaced there. The guns were emplaced simulating actual conditions in the field, with only the gun barrels visible. Soldiers practiced with an AA machine gun between the guns. Mattresses and straw bags were spread out to dry. The gun crews were apparently quartered in earth shelters, as was indicated by smoke rising from stove pipes projecting above the earth. (4)

[redacted] Comments

(1) The 67th Gds Mecz Regt of the 20th Gds Mecz Div has been carried in Zeitz. The unit left for a summer camp in mid-April 1950. Sec [redacted] confirmed that the regiment had moved to Ohrdruf, as was previously assumed. However, the observations [redacted] do not necessarily allow the conclusion that the 67th Gds Mecz Regt was still located in Zeitz. The numbers of troops and tanks allegedly stationed in both barracks installations are considered far too high, as was also explained. The present strength of a mechanized regiment is believed to be 1,500 to 1,800 troops, equipped with 40 to 50 armored vehicles, including 20 to 25 tanks.

(2) The report states for the first time that the Soviet komendatura of Zeitz was located on Kantstrasse. According to a report of October 1949, which was confirmed in April 1950, the komendatura was located at the intersection of Altmarkt and Hoppelinstrasse. [redacted] Colonel Ivanov, (fnu), was reported to be chief of the komendatura. (3) The dumps were reported for the first time. They probably belonged to the troops stationed in Zeitz.

25X1

(4) Since the equipment of a mechanized regiment does not include AA guns of 50 to 88 mm, the AA gun emplacement must have been occupied by another unit, probably an unidentified [redacted]

25X1

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